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Chief Administrative Officer

County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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July 13, 2001

To: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: David E. Janssen 
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors

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Second District

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**CALIFORNIA FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
FOR IMMIGRANTS - (ITEM NO. 8, AGENDA OF JULY 17, 2001)**

Item Number 8 on your agenda for Tuesday, July 17, 2001, is a recommendation by Supervisor Molina that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Administrative Officer to support the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) and Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) and send a five-signature letter to the Governor to request that these programs be approved in the 2001-02 budget.

Existing law establishes the CFAP and CAPI programs to provide food and cash assistance to eligible legal immigrants in California who are not eligible for federal food stamps and SSI/SSP benefits because they entered the United States after August 22, 1996. The CFAP and CAPI programs are due to end on September 30, 2001. The Budget Conference Committee adopted language deleting the sunset clause for these programs, extended the CAPI deeming period from 5 years to 10 years and provided \$22 million in the State Budget to fund these programs in the Budget year.

According to the Department of Community and Senior Services, the most recent data available (November 2000) shows that 6,011 of the 11,372 persons receiving aid under CFAP and 6,046 of the 11,351 persons receiving aid under CAPI live in Los Angeles County. Just over 50 percent of all persons in the State receiving benefits under these programs live in the County.

The County has supported these two programs prior to and since their inception, including County-sponsorship of AB 873 (Villaraigosa) of 1999 which originally would have

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eliminated the sunset date on these programs and extended them permanently. AB 989 (Chan and Cedillo) of the current legislative session also eliminates the expiration date for CFAP and CAPI and would provide on-going eligibility for legal immigrants who meet eligibility requirements. The County supports AB 989. **Therefore, the recommendation to support the CFAP and CAPI programs and request that these programs be approved in the State Budget is consistent with existing County policy which is to "support legislation to provide ongoing eligibility for CFAP and CAPI, with sponsor deeming, for legal immigrants who legally entered the United States after August 22, 1996".**

AB 989 is sponsored by the California Immigrant Welfare Collaborative and is supported by over 100 agencies and organizations. There is no registered opposition. This measure passed off the Assembly Floor by a 61 to 12 vote, passed the Senate Health and Human Services Committee by an 8 to 2 vote, and is currently on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

If you have additional questions, your staff may contact Eddie Washington at 893-2479.

DEJ:GK
EW:md

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisor
Department of Community and Senior Services
Department of Public Social Services